

REMARKS

In the final Office Action mailed July 15, 2008, the Examiner rejected claims 9 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite; and allowed claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-16, 18-19, 21-25, and 66-73. Applicants disagree with the propriety of the claim rejections, however, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants present the above amendments, without prejudice or disclaimer, with the understanding that the rejected claims may be pursued in a forthcoming continuation application.

Thus, by this Amendment After Final, Applicants have canceled claims 9 and 20. After entry of this Amendment, claims 1-5, 7, 8, 10-16, 18, 19, 21-25, and 66-73 are pending in this application, with claims 1 and 12 being independent.

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 1-5, 7, 8, 10-16, 18, 19, 21-25, and 66-73 in condition for allowance. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were earlier claimed. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner. The entering of the Amendment would allow the Applicants to reply to the final rejections and place the application in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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